90-720.1. GENERAL RELIEF GRANT DIVERSION

A. General

This section provides information and instructions for the GR Grant Diversion (GRGD) program.

B. Background

The GRGD program was approved by the Board of Supervisors on February 19, 1985, and has authority under the County Administrative Code, Section 260.

Under GRGD, the GR grant is used as a wage subsidy paid to private sector employers who are willing to hire GR recipients. Grant diversion, acting as an incentive payment to employers, will provide work experience to GR Employable persons resulting in unsubsidized employment.

C. Purpose

The purpose of GRGD is to enable GR recipients to:

- obtain and retain unsubsidized jobs
- achieve economic independence
- reduce GR caseloads and costs.

The goal of GRGD is to place GR recipients into private sector employment.

D. Eligibility

GRGD eligibility will be limited to once-in-a-lifetime.

E. Duration

Up to three months of GRGD may be issued in addition to the three months of AB assistance during the TMP. GRGD assistance months will not count as a month in the three month POE of AB assistance. However, GRGD related sanctions can be applied to the three month POE or, if the POE is exhausted, extend the TMP. The subsidy paid to employers will consist of three four-week periods, while the recipient is employed in a "training" status.

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F. Payment

Private employers shall be paid the amount of the participant's grant up to \$318 for each four-week period toward the salary of the GR recipient hired. In GRGD, the grant will be frozen at the participant's payment level. The grant will not be issued to the recipient but shall be diverted to a special fund from which it will be paid to the employers involved.

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G. Voluntary Program

The choice to participate or not will be completely voluntary on the part of GR recipients. However, once the choice to participate is made in place of JT and JS requirements, the participation is mandatory.

H. Participants

Participants will consist of GR Employable recipients who are potentially job ready.

I. Employers

Private sector employers shall be developed by Adult and Employment Services staff to participate in GRGD. These employers must cooperate with the following requirements:

- offer wages of minimum wage or higher
- offer employment for at least 80 hours per month
- place recipients on the payroll, issuing regular checks
- retain the recipient as an employee after the subsidy period ends.

These employers may also receive the Targeted Jobs Tax Credit if they apply for it with EDD.

J. GR AB Program Modifications

The following two modifications to the GR AB Program will apply to all participants in GRGD:

- The GR grant paid to the employer in GRGD will not have to be repaid by the participant; and
- Participation in GRGD shall satisfy the JS and JT requirements of the GR AB Program.

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K. Procedures

Workers will not be involved in referrals to GRGD or in completion of Form 22-29. The CalFresh E&T SWs will handle referrals into GRGD and all subsequent processing of recipients in the program.

Upon notification of contract approval from the Job Development Unit, the SW will send Form 22-08 HHSA notifying the worker of employment placement and requesting the GR case be transferred from Employable Program status to GRGD status. The worker will return the white copy of Form 22-08 HHSA to the SW indicating the case has been transferred.

L. Good Cause Determinations

The SW will determine if good cause exists when the recipients fail to show up for job interviews, refuse bona fide offers of employment, or terminate employment in the three four-week periods of GRGD employment. The worker will be notified by Form 22-08 HHSA.

If good cause	Then the Social Worker will
exists,	reassign the recipient to a JT assignment, and the worker will make sure that the recipient cooperates with the AB Program regulations. The GRGD case will be converted back to the appropriate GR AB Program.
does not exist,	return the 22-08 HHSA. The worker shall apply the GRGD sanction. A sanction is the disqualification of aid to the entire assistance unit from GR cash assistance for either three consecutive months for the first occurrence of non-compliance or for six consecutive months for the second/subsequent occurrence of non-compliance. Timely NOA must be provided to the recipient at least seven days prior to the effective date of adverse action before aid can be discontinued. The worker will complete the lower section of the 22-08 and return it with one copy of the sanctioning NOA to the Social Worker within 10 days.

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M. Case Handling

GRGD cases require special handling and will be centralized with one Granted Bank worker.

When GRGD participants are hired, the normal flow will be to change the case to an Aid Through First Payday, and then to a GRGD case.